
A Form of
PRAYERS,

Used by
K. WILLIAM III.



A FORM of
PRAYERS,
Used by His
Late Majesty
K. WILLIAM III. *K*

When  Received the
Holy Sacrament.

DUBLIN,

Printed for *Will. Norman* in *Dame-*
street, and *J. Ware* over-against
St. Michael's Church in *High-*
street. 1704.

The Preface.

TH E S E Prayers are faithfully Printed without the least Variation from the Original Papers, which his Majesty constantly used.

They are written in a plain, serious, and unaffected Style, proper to excite true Devotion, and to make men pray with Understanding.

Although they were admirably suited to the Circumstances of his Majesty's Royal Condition, yet the Matter of them is chosen with so much Judgment, that they in a manner comprehend all the things for which a Christian Man ought to Pray; and may afford great Assistance to virtuously disposed Persons of all Ranks and Qualities, in their Religious Exercises.

By thier being made publick, Men will see the high regard his Majesty had

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had for the Duties of the Christian Religion, and how well he employed himself at the Lord's Table; where his Behaviour was ever most Grave, Humble, and Devout.

As often as his Majesty received the Sacrament, which he never failed to do four times in the Year, he always set apart two or three Days to prepare himself for it.

When he was in the Camp, if urgent Affairs put him by the Season he usually allotted for his Preparation; he ordered the Sacrament to be deferred till the Lords-Day following, that he might have Opportunity to fit himself worthily to partake of those Holy Mysterys.

There is also very good Reason to believe, that he made use of some of these Prayers, every Morning and Evening, when he retir'd into his Closet to Pray; in which daily Devotions, they, who had the Honour to at-

tend his Person, well know, that he was most Constant and Regular.

It is therefore hoped that some Right hereby will be done to the Sacred Memory of that excellent Prince, who was the Glorious Instrument of preserving the pure Religion, the Ancient Laws, and known Liberties of this Kingdom.

Which Invaluable Blessings he hath also perpetuated to us by establishing the Succession of the Crown in the Protestant Line, and leaving the immediate Possession thereof to Her Present Majesty, our most Gracious Sovereign
QUEEN ANNE.

Whose Piety, Wisdom, Goodness, and Mercy are Conspicuous to the whole World, and especially to all her Subjects and Allies, who are continually receiving the large and solid Benefits of them.

And as a farther demonstration of her most affectionate and tender Care
 for

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for the good of all that Minister in Holy Things; She hath begun a new Year of Her Life, with declaring Her generous Intention, to give all Her Revenue, arising from the first Fruits and Tenths, to encrease the mean and insufficient Maintenance of the Clergy, in divers Parts of the Kingdom: By which Charitable and Gracious Act She will highly adorn the Reformation made by Her Ancestors, and surpass them all in Her Munificence, and Royal Bounty to the Church of England.

May it please God to preserve Her most Sacred Person and Government; to protect Her against all open Violence, and secret Conspiracy; and long to continue Her to be, as She most eminently is, the Great Defender of our excellent Constitution both in Church and State; the firm Support of the Protestant Religion; and the Guardian of the Liberty of Europe.

A 4

J. Norwich.

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A Form of
PRAYERS, &c.

JOHN IX. 4.

*I must work the Works of
him that sent me, while
it is day, the night com-
eth when no Man can
work.*

Colof. 3. 17.

Whatsoever ye do in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

A Prayer to God, that he would be pleased to assist and accept my Preparation to receive the B. Sacrament.

I Prostrate my self before thee, my most gracious God and merciful Father, in an humble acknowledgment of my unworthiness and insufficiency of my self, for any thing that is good. I am sensible that without thee I can do nothing; and therefore do humbly implore thy gracious Assistance, and Acceptance of my endeavour to prepare my self for the worthy receiving of the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of thy dear Son. Stir

Stir up, I beseech thee, such pious Affections and Dispositions in my Soul, and fill my mind with such holy Meditations as are suitable to this occasion, grant me such a sense of my Sins, and of the Sufferings of my Blessed Saviour for them, as may affect my Heart with a deep sorrow for my Sins, and an eternal Hatred and Displeasure against them; and may effectually engage me to love, and live to him who dy'd for me, Jesus Christ, my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

A Penitent Confession of Sins, with an humble Supplication for Mercy and Forgiveness.

MOST gracious and merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold Iniquity : I desire to humble my Soul before thee, in
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a deep sense of my own Vileness
and unworthiness, by reason of
the many Sins and provocations,
which I have bin guilty of against
thy divine Majesty ; by thought,
word and deed . Forgive, O Lord,
all the Sins and Follies of my Life,
which have bin many and great ;
and which I do now with shame
and sorrow confess and bewail be-
fore thee, for thy mercies sake in
Jesus Christ . Pardon, O my God,
my manifold neglects and omissi-
ons, and slight and careless per-
formance of the Duties of Religi-
on, without due Affection and
Attention of Mind ; that I have not
served thee with that purity of In-
tention, with that sincerity
of Heart, with that ser-
vency of Spirit, with that Zeal
for thy Glory, with that care and
diligence, and constancy that I
ought . Forgive, O Lord, my Sins
of

of Ignorance and Infirmitie, which are more than can be numbred; but especially, all my wilful Transgressions of thy Holy and Righteous Laws; the impurity of my Heart, and thoughts, all irregular Appetites and Passions, and every sinful and wicked practice, of what nature or kind soever. More particularly, I do with great shame and Confusion of Face, confess and lament before thee, from whom nothing is hid, that I have grievously offended. * These my Transgressions, with many more, which I cannot remember and reckon up before thee, are all in thy sight, O Lord, and my most secret Sins in the light of thy Countenance. When I look back upon the Errors and Miscarriages of my past Life, and

* Here he was us'd to Mention Particulars.

con-

consider with my self what I have done, and what I deserve at thy Hands, my Flesh trembleth for fear of thee, and I am afraid of thy Judgments. I am ashamed, O my God, and blush to lift up mine Eyes to thee, my God. Lord, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I abhor my self, and repent in Dust and Ashes.

Make me deeply sensible of the great evil of my Sins, and work in me a hearty Contrition for them; and let the sense of them be more grievous to me than of any other Evil whatsoever. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, and according to thy tender mercies forgive all my Transgressions, for the sake of my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Grace and Assistance of God's Holy Spirit, to enable me to resolve and to do better for the future.

AND now, O Lord, in Confidence of thy great Mercy and Goodness to all that are truly Penitent, and sincerely resolve to do better, I most humbly implore the Grace and Assistance of thy Holy Spirit, to enable me to become every day better, and to reform whatever has bin amiss in the Temper and Disposition of my mind, or in any of the Actions of my Life. Grant me the Wisdom and Understanding to know my Duty, and the Heart and Will to do it. Vouchsafe to me the continual Presence and Direction, the Assistance and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit; whereby I may be dispos'd and enabled to do thy Will with delight.

light and cheerfulness, and with Patience and contentedness to submit to it in all things. Endue me, O Lord, with the true fear and love of thee, and with a prudent Zeal for thy Glory. Encrease in me more and more the Graces of Charity and meekness of Truth, and Justice, and Fidelity; give me Humility and patience, and a firmness of Spirit to bear every condition with constancy and equality of mind.

Enable me, O Lord, by thy Grace to govern all my Appetites, and every inordinate Lust and Passion, by Temperance and purity, and meekness of Wisdom; setting Thee always before me, that I may not sin against thee. Create in me a clean Heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me, purify my Soul from all evil thoughts & Inclinations, from all bad Intentions and Designs.
Deliver

Deliver me, O Lord, from pride and Vanity, from immoderate Self-love, and obstinate Self-will, and from all Malice and Envy, and ill Will towards any.

Make me to love thee, as I ought, above all things; and let the Interest of thy Honour and Glory be ever dearer to me than my own Will, or Reputation, or any Temporal advantage whatsoever.

Subdue in me the evil Spirit of wrath and Revenge; and dispose my Heart patiently to bear Reproaches and wrongs, and to be ready not only to forgive, but to return good for evil.

Assist me, O Lord, more especially in the faithful and conscientious discharge of the Duties of that high Station in which thou
hast

hast placed me : And grant that I may employ all that Power and Authority which thou hast invested me with, for thy Glory and the publick Good, that I may rule over men in thy Fear, with Justice and Equity, ever studying and endeavouring the good of the people committed to my Charge, and as much as in me lyes the Peace and Prosperity, the Welfare and Happiness of Mankind.

Confirm me, O my God, in all these holy Resolutions ; and do thou keep it for ever in the purpose of my Heart, to perform them to the utmost of my Power : All which I humbly beg for thy mercies sake in Jesus Christ, *Amen.*

An humble Intercession with God for all mankind; for the whole Christian Church, and more particularly for that part of it which is planted in these Kingdoms; for the Queen, and for all under our Government; for my Relations and Friends; for my Native Country, and for my Allies, &c.

I Thine unworthy Servant desire likewise humbly to interceed with Thee, the God and Father of All, for all Mankind; that thou wouldest be pleased to have Compassion upon their Blindness and Ignorance, their gross Errors and their wicked Practices. Send forth, I beseech thee, thy Light, and thy Truth, to scatter that thick Darkness which covers the Nations, and overspreads so great a part of the World, that thy Way may be known upon Earth, and thy saving

ving Health among all Nations.

Bless and preserve thy Church dispersed over the Face of the Earth; restore to it Unity and Concord, in the acknowledgement of the Truth, and the practice of Righteousness and Goodness. Remove out of it all Errors and Corruptions, all Offences and Scandals, all Divisions and Dissentions, all Tyranny and Usurpation over the Minds and Consciences of Men; that they who profess the same Faith, may no longer persecute and destroy one another, but may be kind and tender-hearted one towards another, as it becomes Brethren, and those that are Heirs of the same common Salvation.

I beseech thee more especially, to be merciful to that part of thy Church, which thou hast planted in these Kingdoms. Pity the Distracti-

Distractions, and heal the Breaches of it. Purge out of it all Impiety and Profaness, take away those mistakes, and mutual Exasperations; which cause so much Distemper and Disturbance; and restore to it Piety and Vertue, Peace and Charity. Endue the Pastors and Governours of it, with the Spirit of true Religion and Goodness, and make them Zealous and Diligent to promote it in those who are under their Instruction and Care. Give them Wisdom to discern the best and most proper means of composing the Differences of this miserably divided Church, the Heart to endeavour it, and by thy Blessing upon their Endeavours the happiness to effect it.

And I beseech thee, O Lord, of thy great goodness, to bless all my Relations and Friends & particu-

particularly my dearest Consort the Queen. I acknowledge thy especial Providence in bringing Us together, and thereby giving me the opportunity and means of being Instrumental in rescuing these Nations from Misery and Ruin. And as thou hast been pleased to Unite us in the nearest Relation; so I beseech thee to preserve and continue that entire Love and Affection between us, which becomes that Relation. And if it be thy Blessed Will, and thou seest it best for us, bless us with Children to sit upon the Throne of these Kingdoms, and to be a Blessing to them for many Generations.

Be merciful also, O God, to my Native Country; let true Religion and Righteousness be established amongst them, as the surest Foundation of their Peace and Prosperity.

Bless

Bless all my Allies ; O Righteous Lord, that lovest Righteousness, and hatest Falshood and Wrong; do thou stand by us in the maintenance of that Just Cause in which we are engaged, and bless us with Union and good Success.

And in thy good time, O Lord, restore Peace to Christendom ; put an end to those bloody Wars and Desolations, wherewith it hath bin so long and so miserably harass'd: And, when thou seest it best and fittest, manifest thy glorious Justice in giving check to that Ambition and Cruelty, which hath bin the cause of so great Calamities, to so great a part of the World. O God, to whom Vengeance belongeth, O God, to whom Vengeance belongeth, shew thy self : Lift up thy self thou Judge of the Earth, and render a Reward to the Proud : Scatter the People that delight in War:

War : Let the Wickedness of the Wicked come to an end, but do thou establish the Just.

Be merciful, O God, to all that are in affliction or distress ; that labour under Poverty or Persecution, or Captivity ; under bodily Pains and Diseases, or under Temptation and Trouble of mind: Be pleased to support and comfort them, and in thy due time to deliver them, according to thy great mercy.

† Forgive, I beseech thee, most merciful Father, to all mine Enemies all thier malice and ill-will towards me ; and give them Repentance and better minds : which I heartily beg of thee for them, as I my self hope for mercy and forgiveness at thy Hands, thro' the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ my most merciful God and Saviour, *Amen,*

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A Thankful acknowledgment of the Mercies of God, both Temporal and Spiritual; and above all for the Redemption of Mankind, by the Humiliation and Sufferings of his Son in our Nature.

Blessed and Glorious; Lord God, the great Creator and Preserver, and Governour of all things; my Saviour and Deliverer, and continual Benefactor; I acknowledge, I admire, I adore thy infinite Excellencies and Perfections: And let all the Creatures in Heaven and Earth say, *Amen.*

I Render Thanks to thee, most Gracious God, for innumerable Favours conferred upon me thy poor Creature, and most unworthy; for my Being, for my Reason, and for all other Endowments

ments and Faculties of Soul and Body ; for thy continual Care and watchful Providence over me from the beginning of my Life, and through the whole course of it: For all the Happy Circumstances of my Birth and Education: For the Pious care of my dear and ever-Honoured Mother, and Grand-mother, and of all others who had the charge of me in my tender Years: For thy unwearied Patience towards me, after so many and so great Provocations: And for thy merciful and wonderful preservation of me from innumerable Dangers and Deaths, to which I have bin exposed all my Life. I will still hope in thy Goodness, O Lord, who hast bin my trust from my Youth ; by thee have I bin holden up from the Womb, my praise shall be continually of

thee. Above all I adore thy tender Mercy and Compassion to me, and all Mankind, in sending thy only Son into the World to redeem us from Sin and Misery, and by suffering in our Nature, and dying in our Stead, to purchase for us Eternal Life. I bless thee for the Light of the Glorious Gospel, for the knowledge and sense of my Duty towards thee; for delivering me from Temptations too hard for me, and supporting me under many: For the Direction and Assistance, and Comforts of thy holy Spirit: For restraining me by thy Grace, and reclaiming me from the ways of Sin and Vanity: And for all the gracious Communications of thy Goodness, whereby thou hast inclined my Heart to Love and Fear thee, and enabled me in any measure to do thy Will.

For

For these and all other thy Blessings and Favours to me, which are more than can be number'd; I render unto thee, most Gracious God, all possible Praise and Thanks by Jesus Christ my Blessed Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

A Prayer to God, to prepare my Heart for the worthy receiving of the Holy Sacrament, and to make me partaker of the Blessings and Benefits of it.

I Come to thee, O my Lord God, from whom are the preparation of the Heart, and the good disposition of our minds for thy VVorship and service. Fit me, O Lord, by a hearty Contrition for my sins, and a sincere Resolution of a better

B. 3. Course,

Course to approach thy Altar. Accept of the Expiation which thy Son hath made of all my Transgressions by the Sacrifice of Himself, as of a Lamb without Spot and Blemish. Let the remembrance of my Sins, and of his bitter sufferings for them, pierce my very Heart, and engage me for ever to love and serve him, who laid down his Life for me. Cleanse me, O Lord, from all filthiness of flesh and Spirit, that I may be a meet Guest for thy Holy Table, and a real partaker of those Blessings and Benefits which are Represented in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Strengthen, O God, all good Resolutions in me; enable me by thy Grace faithfully to perform the Conditions of that Covenant, which I made in Baptism, and intend to Renew
in

by K. VVilliam. 31

in the Holy Sacrament, by dedicating my self entirely, and for ever to the service of my Blessed Redeemer, who hath loved me, and washed me from my sins in his own Blood. To him be all Honour, and Glory, Thanksgiving and Praise, Love and Obedience, for ever and ever, *Amen.*

*Short Meditations and Ejaculations
at the Communion.*

Before the Minister begin the Service.

I Lift up my Soul to thee, my God, Humbly imploring thy Blessing upon me, and Gracious assistance of me in the Holy Action I am now about. Forgive my want of due preparation, and accept

accept of my sincere desire to perform an acceptable Service to thee, through Jesus Christ.

Before the Receiving of the Bread.

Lord, I am not worthy of the crumbs, which fall from thy Table.

After the Receiving of it.

Greater Love than this hath no man, that a man lay down his Life for his Friend.

Herein hath God commended his Love to us, that whilst we were Enemies, he gave his Son to die for us.

Before Receiving of the Cup.

What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits? I will take the cup of Salvation, and I will bless the Name of the Lord.

After the Receiving of it.

Blessed be God for his unspeakable Gift, his dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, in whom
we

by K. VVilliam. 33

we have Redemption, through his Blood, even the forgiveness of Sins.

After the Conclusion of the whole Action.

Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me bless his Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and forget not all his Benefits; who forgiveth all thine Iniquities, and healeth all thy Diseases: Who redeemeth thy Life from destruction; and crowneth thee with loving Kindness, and tender Mercies: who satisfieth thy Mouth with good things. Bless the Lord, O my Soul.

A Prayer to be used in private afterwards.

I praise and magnify thy great and glorious Name, O Lord my God, for the blessed Opportunity afforded to me this day, of
Commemorating

Commemorating thy infinite Goodness and Mercy to me and all Mankind, in sending thy only Son into the World to take our Nature upon him, to submit to the Infirmities and Miseries of it, to live amongst us, and to dye for us: And to preserve the Memory of this great Love and Goodness of thine to us for ever in our Hearts, that thou hast bin pleased to appoint the Blessed Sacrament, for a Solemn Remembrance of it. Grant, O Lord, that I may faithfully keep and perform that holy Covenant which I have this day so solemnly renewed and confirm'd in thy Presence, and at thy Table. Let it be an eternal Obligation upon me of perpetual Love and Obedience to thee. Let nothing seem hard for me to do, or grievous for me to suffer for thy sake, who

who whilst I was a Sinner and an Enemy to thee, lovedst me at such a rate as never any man did his Friend. Grant that by this Sacrament there may be conveyed to my Soul new Spiritual Life and Strength, and such a measure of thy Grace and Assistance as may enable me to a greater care of my Duty for the future: That I may henceforth live as becomes the Redeemed of the Lord; even to him who died for my Sins, and rose again for my Justification, and is now sate down on the right hand of the Throne of God, to make Intercession for me: In his Holy Name and words, I conclude my imperfect Prayers.

OUR Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give

us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that have trespassed against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil: For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, for ever. Amen.

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